

AFEHRI File 19-5-1-10

Research Materials/Source Documents
AWARDS & DECORATIONS

FILE TITLE: Air Force Cross Recipient: A1C Charles D. King

Reviewed by:

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.. Airman First Class Charles D. King. On Christmas Day, 1968, Airman King, a pararescueman, and his crewmembers set out to find a downed American pilot in Vietnam. When they located him, still in his parachute, Airman King volunteered to rescue him. On the ground, he freed the wounded pilot from his chute and secured him to the hoist. However, as they were waiting to be lifted, intense enemy fire severely wounded Airman King and endangered the lives of those aboard the helicopter. Because the crew was in peril, Airman King told the pilot to leave even though he was at risk of being captured or losing his own life. In fact, he was killed in action during this incident.